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# On pulmonary Consumption

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# upon pulmonary Consumption.

I shall, in treating upon this disease, briefly sum up what I have published upon it, ~~and~~ with some additional facts and remarks. —

It is a highly interesting disease, for it composes, it has been supposed at least two thirds of all Chronic diseases, and it is the Channel that conveys from 1/4 to 1/8 part of the ~~[illegible]~~ human race to the grave in many Countries.

I have considered it in my inquiries as a Chronic pneumony, for which reason I have called it pneumonicula. It is not singular in being the protracted state of a disease that is commonly acute. We have chronic rheumatism — Chronic gout - Chronic

∨ I differ from Dr Cullen in placing Catarrh among the primary causes of ~~catarrhs~~ consumption but the Doctor seems to have been misled by his theory of consumption & hectic fever being exclusively the effects of purulency in the lungs.

Hepatitis - Chronic Dysentery - & chronic fevers. Why should we not have Chronic pneumony ~~in~~?

Its remote Causes act *primarily*, *secondarily*, and *sympathetically* upon the lungs.

I The *primary* Causes of pulmonary Consumption are pneumony, Catarrh, Influenza neglected in their first stage, or improperly treated, Asthma Wounds and Contusions of the lungs - irritating matters inhaled into the lungs, and malconformation of the breast. I am aware

II The secondary Causes are Gout, Rheumatism fevers of all kinds, and humors translated from different parts of the body to the lungs. The ~~virus of~~ the venereal poison has sometimes induced it in this way.

III The sympathetic Causes are

in other parts of the body particularly diseases & disorders in the liver, spleen, stomach, bowels, heart & Uterus. In these cases there is no translation of ~~the disease~~ disease from any of the above organs. On the contrary, disease exists in the part first affected, at the same time that it exists in the lungs, and as I shall say hereafter the disease in the lungs can be cured only by removing its sympathetic cause.

I shall deliver a few general propositions upon the nature of this disease.

I It is always preceded by general debility. This is evident from all the causes which induce it. You will them enumerated in my inquiries. It may be said here that this is not the case when pulmonary consumption is induced by pneumony. Co=

=tarrh,

V to Death ~~until~~ unless the whole system imparts its debility to them ~~[illegible] partakes of their debility~~, or Until they impart their debility to the whole system. —

& I infer general debility to precede pulmonary Consumption from the Occupations of persons who are most subject to it. These are all of a debilitating nature. This has been proved with great Accuracy by Dr Beddoes. He found most Consumptions among people who led sedentary lives, or by local injuries of the lungs. I admit those acute forms of disease are not brought on by ~~general~~ chronic debility, but I deny that they ever produce Consumption until ~~they have continued long the~~ the fever cough, expectoration watch-fulness & Abstinence, ~~and~~ which usually accompany them have continued so long as to weaken the whole system. In support of this opinion, permit me to refer you to the facts mentioned in my inquiries of the patience and resistance with which the lungs sustain deep-seated wounds, and also abscesses, ~~and~~ chronic diseases for many years without bringing the arterial system into a con-sumptive sympathy with them. They are I said in our physiology a hardy tissues, and very rarely ~~admit~~ ~~afford an entrance of~~ become an avenue

V Until the cough has induced general debility: for a cough as a consumptive patient once said is "hard work": that is it is, of a most exhausting & debi~~liting~~ litating nature.

lives, especially if they worked in cold places while he found fewest among those people who ~~used~~ ~~exercise~~ laboured in the open air, even tho' they pursued employments which exposed them to being wetted with cold water - such as sailors - water men, & fish wives. Butchers & Catgut makers tho' ex=posed ~~to~~ so much to animal effluvia were nearly exempted from it.

3 From its symptoms appearing first in the whole system, sometimes, & in some ~~years~~ instances for months & years before the lungs are affected. These symptoms are weakness, fatigue after a little exertion - weak appetite - headach burning in the hands - cold feet - & occasional Diarrhoea. When ~~from~~ it arises from a Cough it does not take place ~~not till the Cough has induced general debility. a Cough had work in Harvey's Speech.~~

4 From its alternating with diseases of the whole System which originate in debility as Rheumatism - Madness - Head Ach - Dyspepsia, and diseases of the Skin.

II. ~~III~~ The Pulmonary Consumption is seated

3 a discharge of mucus - phlegm - or a watery fluid. ~~or pus secreted from~~ the Happy for the patient when this is the case! as it saves the lungs from obstruction and dis=organization. ~~In Pus is~~ 4ly: with these matters or without them ~~&~~ ~~& them & them~~ pus is sometimes discharged from the lungs secreted from their surface. We see this after a common Catarrh likewise. It is called the rotting of the Cold. 5 ~~and lastly~~ The fluids when preternaturally determined to the lungs produce ~~Abscesses~~, and tubercles. ~~These~~ The former I have supposed are formed in the branches of the pulmonary vessels - the latter in the branches of the bronchial vessels. No more takes place in all these products of a disease in the lungs =

like Pneumony in the ~~bl~~ bloodvessels. These are affected primarily with different degrees of morbid Action. This Action is soon communicated to the Lungs, where it excites 1 Cough 2 hæmoptysis. ~~If this discharge~~ Happy for a patient tending to Consumption where this discharge of blood from the lungs occurs in this stage of ~~the~~ his disease. It is local V.S. & if followed by small repetitions of it when indicated by the pulse, & by other remedies suited to the state of the system, the patient generally recovers. But if no hæmorrhage occurs from the lungs, the ~~blood~~ fluids which are preternaturally determined to them, generally produce V.D ~~producing~~ ~~abscess, tubercles~~ : ~~No more~~ ~~happens here~~, that occurs ~~to~~ in many other fevers in other parts of the body as in the liver, Kidneys - Omentum - brain, & sometimes on the external parts of the body - The ~~abscess, and~~ tumors & abscesses we find in

V It is true, they are often formed without any obvious signs of debility or disease, – So ~~are~~ are Abscesses & Obstructions in the liver in India; but they are the effects of bilious fever in a debilitated state. In this state of the lungs the cough ~~has~~ is at first dry & hard and remains so till the Abscess or tubercles burst, and matter be discharged from them. Hectic fever is always the effect of ~~tubercles or~~ them. ~~always~~.

6ly and lastly A few cases have occurred in which Hydatids ~~have been d~~ and more, in which small calculi have been discharged by coughing. – The same matters are likewise the results of disease & effusions in other parts of the body. ~~The tubercles, I have said elsewhere are formed from disease in the bronchial vessels. Abscesses from disease in the bloodvessels. These likewise are formed from diseases in other parts of the body. as in the liver & intestines – where we do not accuse them of~~ ~~[illegible]~~ ~~being the cause of Hepatitis or Dysentery.~~

these places have uniformly been considered as the *effects* of fever – Why should not fever produce the same effects in the lungs? Why should na-ture depart from a general law of disease, by making tubercles & Abscesses the cause of fever in one case, – and the effects of it in every Other fever? She does not do so, but maintains ~~her~~ that Uniformity of her Operations in this, as in all Other fevers. I have said the consumptive fever *generally* ends in tubercles or Abscesses, but to this remark there is sometimes an Ex-ception – the fluids determined to the lungs are sometimes effused into the bronchiæ and discharged in a kind of mucus or serum – by coughing & expectoration, without producing Absceſs. or tubercles. In ~~the~~ those cases dissections shew the lungs to be sound, & yet the patient dies with all ~~the~~ Symptoms of pulmonary Consumption.

V. It is known by a constant cough, &
a black coloured expectoration. [Mr Harrison
died with it – ~~had hemorrhage first from it~~ – then
reliev. Also Capt: Keen – had ~~difficulty~~ inability
to swallow – hoarseness & tumor lessened by
leeches – broke – spit up pus &c & died 1804
Dr Lee] This black color is sometimes induced
by inhaling the air in which Oil has been
burnt in lamps. The first expectoration in a
morning after an evening spent at the Theatre is
often of this color. –

But why should the bloodvessels in the ~~pulmonary~~ consumptive fever empty ~~their~~ themselves upon the lungs more than upon ~~any~~ any other part of the body? — I answer, – the lungs are naturally a lax part of the body, & disposed to receive morbid determinations – they are moreover kept constantly in a state of predisposing & exciting debility by talking – going out at nights, and in all kinds of weather for persons who ~~are~~ have the premonitory signs of Consumptions are seldom confined to their houses till long after their lungs are affected.

Sometimes the whole force of the consumptive ~~disease~~ fever falls upon the Larynx or Trachia instead of the lungs, producing there, either hemorrhages, an Ulcer, ~~&~~ or a constant serous, defluxion. I have called this ~~a~~ the Larynx or ~~Trach~~ Trachial Consumption. ∨ many ~~&~~ ~~the~~ people have a serous Defluxion ~~from~~ upon the Trachia for 20, 30, 40, 50, & 60 years

+ viz: Jon$^{th}$ Condy & father & Wm Bradford -

without ~~suffering~~ falling into a Consumpt: — It is because in such people it is a mere local disease — It is only when the Whole System is debilitated that it ends in ~~pulmonary~~ Consumption.

I wish Gent: to impress these theory of ~~the~~ Consumption on your minds, for it leads to the only regular modes of preventing & curing it that have ever been suggested. All Cures performed by any Other theory are empirical & accidental.

It is not in Consumption only that the effects of a disease have been mistaken for its Cause. ~~The~~ Water in the brain, — ~~the~~ membrane in the Trachea — & a preternatural secretion of ~~quantity of~~ bile have ~~all~~ been accused of producing Hydroceph: — Cynanche Trachialis — & bilious fevers Whereas We Now know they are the effects only of those diseases in the Order in which I have mentioned them. It is high time to harness ~~put~~ the

horses which drag the Carr of medicine before, ~~it~~ instead of behind it. The earth, in our Science has stood still long eno'. — Let ~~it~~ us believe at last, inspite of the great & little Popes of the Old School, that it revolves round the Sun. —

III ~~·~~ The pulmy Consumption sometimes assumes an intermediate form between pneumony & pneumonicula, & terminates in life, or death in five or six weeks. In this State it is called a galloping Consumption. But it more commonly continues for 3. 6. 9. 12, & 18 months, & with intervals of relief for 1/3 - 1/2, or through the whole period of human life. + ~~Between my 18th & 40th years I was several times affected with this disease, and fatal to such a degree as to~~

V ~~Thus~~ It most commonly attacks at the Cessation of Growth from 19 - to 21. for two reasons. 1 more blood is made than is required for the nourishment of the body, & 2 no outlet exists for superfluous blood in the thymus gland which is at this time generally absorbed. The Capacity of the thorax moreover increases with years & hence one cause of predisposition to Consumption springing. ~~with~~ ~~G~~ age.

VI I ~~year~~ I was consulted ~~last~~ in the Winter of 1808 by a young man & ~~a young woman~~ his sister ~~last~~ from North. County who were both in the first stage of pulm. Consumption. They had lost 8 brothers & sisters with it. Their mother had died of the same disease at 46 & their father was then ill with it in the 62nd year of his age. ~~His name is Dewitt~~ ~~1808~~

~~8~~ 11

be attended with chills ~~hectic fever & night~~ sweats. The late Dr Nichols the patron & partner in lecturing with Dr Wm Hunter was subject to occasional attacks of this disease during his whole life & he lived to be above 80 years of age. —

IV It generally attacks persons under 36, sometimes above 40, but rarely above 60. Children are rarely affected with it, but I have seen it follow the hooping cough in them.

V Black eyed, & red haired people are most subject to it. Such persons have generally irritable habits & vibratile blood vessels. They ~~with black eyes in the~~ ~~[illegible]~~

VI The predisposition to this disease is hereditary. It is said oftner to follow the father, than the ~~mother~~!! A certain Bethiah Kinsbury died at Franklin on the 24th of Feb: 1790 of this disease. Both of her parents - 3 brothers. & a sister all died with it six years before her. 40

V The more variable the weather, tho in middle latitudes, the more frequent, the consumptions. The weather in the year 1803 was remarkable ~~uncommonly~~ Variable in France ~~which~~ for the number of deaths from that disease. They were ascribed to the frequent & sudden changes in th~~at~~ weather in that year. The month of March in our climates derives its fatal influence upon this disease chiefly from the frequent & distant changes in the Weather.

N not peculiar to this disease to ~~be~~ spread thro' a whole family of Children without being derived from ~~without its [illegible]~~ ~~the~~ parents. The same thing I said formerly has taken place in palsy - Epilepsy - sore legs & deafness. —

+ A student of medicine who attended these lectures in 1807 Mr Schoolfield, informed me that he had lost 7 Brothers & Sisters in this disease & that he himself had a weak breast, but that his grand father had died at 81 & his grand mother nearly to the same age, & that his father & mother were both free from every symptom of the disease.

Deaths of persons belonging to her fathers family, including those which have been mentioned had occurred in 38 years. They were all agriculturalists. ~~because they live longest with it~~.

VIII ~~I~~ It is a ~~family~~ filial disease, and exists in whole ~~family~~ families independantly of any predisposition from Ancestors. Dr Craig of Maryland has lost ~~4~~ all his Children ~~but one~~ 8 in number by it, and yet neither, nor his wife, nor any of their Ancestors ever had the least predisposition to it. ~~June~~ In the month of Aug.t 1793 I was consulted by a Mr Gale (aged 21) of Maryland in a Consump.n He had lost five brothers & ſisters with it, & yet none of his ancestors had been subject to it: they had lived in a place subject to Intermittents. ~~It is not contagious~~. — It is N

VIII. ~~IX~~ Moist & variable Climates & Countries are most ~~subject to~~ apt to produce this disease, provided they lie near the ſea ſhore. From 1/4 to 1/2 of all the adults

who die in G Britain Dr Willan says
perish with this disease. In the town of
Salem there died in the year 1799 - 169
persons - 53 of whom died of Consumptions,
making in all nearly 1/3 of the whole
number. 8 more died of what is called
a long fever - probably - of what we call
here a Galloping Consumption. Salem is
situated ~~seated~~ near the sea, & ~~the~~ air ~~there~~ in it
is generally moist from the East Winds
which blow over it. Consumpt:ns are more frequ: +
in Boston - Rhode Island & New York from
their Damp Winds & Vicinity + to the Sea
than they are in Philad:a - the greater
mortality of this disease near the Sea Shore
is owing to the higher tone of inflammation
Diseases are apt to assume in such situations. - Dr Linley who removed from

√ In the neighbourhood of Cape may in New Jersey which is near the Seashore there are three religious Societies among whom the Influenza prevailed in the year 1790. Its mortality ~~mortality was of this disease which is seldom~~ ~~great in at a distance from this~~ ~~the~~ ~~sea, was~~ ~~great~~ was in the ratio of their vicinity to ~~the~~ Seashore under equal Circumstances.

The ~~H~~ Deaths were ~~greater~~ most numerous among the Presby:ns who lived nearest the sea, & least so among the Baptists who lived at the ~~g~~greatest distance from it. ~~those Dr Finley at~~

These facts are important, as they show the Disposition ~~danger~~ of the sea Air to add to the diseases of ye lungs, and the necessity ~~result~~ of course of advising consumptive patients to ~~fly go farther~~ fly ~~to~~ from it an inland parish, to Beaufort in South Carolina informed me that the diseases in the latter place (which lies near the sea) required the lancet much more that the ~~sea~~ same diseases in the interior part of the state.

In the ~~that part of~~ [illegible] of ~~[illegible]~~

~~At~~ Cape May in New Jersey which is near the sea ~~shore~~ there are 3 religious societies among whom the influenza prevailed in 1790 — The Presbyterians who ~~lived near the sea~~ lost most within it under equal circumstances the Quakers who lived adjacent ~~next~~ to them lost ~~the~~ greatest next ~~in~~ number, & the Baptists who lived most remote from the sea lost the fewest of their members by death.

These facts are interesting, for they shew that the consumption tho more frequent near the sea shore than elsewhere is

not necessarily ~~[illegible]~~ mortal there, but that it requires more V.S: than the ~~same~~ it requires in Other Situations]

That moisture alone does not predispose to Consumpt.ⁿ I infer from the disease being scarcely known in the inland parts of Holland - in the fens of Lincolnshire, & in many parts of Ireland. ~~The plentiful~~ ~~sea~~ In moist Countries remote from the Sea, Other Causes therefore must concur to produce it. In Britain the debilitating customs of civilized life act powerfully in producing it. The same customs have ~~as much from~~ increased it in the United States [illegible]: A bad Cold which ~~formerly~~ discovered itself in a violent pneu-mony, now appears ~~as~~ in the ~~a~~ feeble chronic form of Catarrh & Consumption, and from its not being attended with pain, nor much fever, secretly undermines the

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IX There is a great Variety in the ~~app~~ order of the Symptoms of this disease, ~~and in the~~ It is divided into Stages by authors, which have been called ~~the~~ inflam^y ~~the~~ hectic & typhus. — But this division is improper — ~~for they do~~ they should be called States, for they do not succeed each other in the order that has been named: — we see it sometimes ~~&~~ typhus in its first stage, and in its last stage ~~& lastly~~ inflam: — again we see it typhus — or hectic ~~or~~ inflam^y throughout its whole course — ~~and lastly~~ we see it change its type a dozen time into each of those states of fever, and lastly we see ~~again~~ it puts on several Anomalous Symptoms which are not to be met with in its history by nosological writers.

pathognomic signs. 1, I have seen a fatal case in which during its whole course there was not a single Chilly fit perhaps owing to pus being formed without inflam: for in such cases J: Hunter says no chills take place. — 2: I have seen two cases without a fever — Chill — or night Sweats. ~~These~~ It occurred in the Penns: hospital. There is a similar case recorded in the memoirs of the medical Society of London. Dr Heberden says 1 in 20 die of this disease without fever.

3: ~~again~~ by I have seen two cases which terminated fatally in which there was no Cough. In One ~~the~~ patient ~~comp~~ complained only of head ach, in the other, only of ~~an~~ a pain in One side, and a inability to speak except ~~only~~ in a whisper. They both had Abscesses in their Lungs. [Philips: negro & polly Loxley] ~~Jno~~

~~seen from these two cases~~
~~of the presence & contact of air~~ upon pus ~~seems necessary to create~~
Tongue seldom dry. & appetite unimpaired.
~~in fever.~~
~~Lastly~~ there is pulm: Consumption from weakness only & no ulcer, or disease in the lungs. Dr Haep & Dr Bond.

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constitution by disorganizing the lungs before medical aid is called for, & hence the greater frequency of Consumptions in our Country than 50, or 60 years ago. Cold Climates do not often produce Consump^ns nor very hot Ones, but they are both unfriendly to Consumptive people. Few have recovered who have been sent to the West Indies for ~~the recovery~~ ~~from~~ this disease, from Philadelphia. Dr Blane says between the 30th & 40th degrees of Latitude are most friendly to consumptive patients. V

of the ~~symptoms~~ order ~~origin & progress~~

~~There is a great variety in the symptoms of this disease. Authors divide it into 1, 2d & 3:~~
or inflam^y hectic & typhus
~~stages, and describe each of these stages as if they~~
But this not correct. They do not succeed thus regularly. we see ~~these~~ ~~It has many diff.~~
~~uniformly appeared in them.~~
~~to~~ inverted in many cases. ~~+~~
~~forms~~. I beg your attention to these facts. They are intended to deliver you from the trammels of nosology, & ~~with~~ a ~~fruitful~~ fruitless looking for, of pathognomonic signs of diseases. ~~All things in na-~~ ~~-ture vary~~

XI Diseases, and disorders in nearly every part of the body by conveying morbid actions to the lungs become the ~~ne~~ remote causes of pulmony Consumption. Of this we shall mention proofs presently.

V means establishes the truth of the Contagiousness of that fever. ~~Whatever~~ Nothing ~~[illegible]~~ can be inferred from ~~its~~ the pulmy consumption spreading among all the Children of the same family where no predisposition to it is derived from ancestors, for ~~what proves~~ this would prove too much — it would prove that Epilepsy, palsy, lost legs, Jaundice [10 out of 11 children died wt it. Persons] and Deafness which likewise prevail in the same way among all the Children of a family ~~are~~ without being derived from ancestors are all Contagious diseases.

The following ~~w~~ appearances have been discovered after death by dissection in the pulmonary Consumption. p. 15 —

~~why, not disease~~

The Pulm Consumption 18 – ~~#~~

~~#~~ X ~~It~~ is said to be contagious Disease. Under certain circumstances of inhaling the breath of persons with ulcerated lungs, or sleeping with persons who sweat profusely, it is possible the disease may be communicated by y: Contagion of excretion, ~~but~~ the matter expectorated is often highly acrid & irritating, & when it acts upon the lungs may induce a pulmy. disease, so may the sweats when they become putrid & acrid by stagnation – but such cases are very rare. It is true – it is believed to be contagious in Spain & Portugal & the beds and cloathing of persons who die with it are often burned by order of their magistrates ~~&~~ and physicians, – but the same thing is done ~~and~~ with the beds & cloathes of persons who die of the yellow fever in our city, & by the same high & medical authority, but this by no v Trachea & larynx. In the latter they always occasion hoarseness. 5 Silicious matters 6 gravelly concretions – 7 Ossifications ~~of~~ of pleura & lungs – the latter sud=denly after after amputation of a sick knee. 8 Substances inhaled by the lungs as flour, & fine flax. 9 Abscess – One or more 10 Ulcers. 11 Tubercles; These are often suddenly produced as ~~in~~ Dysentery. 4/5 cases discover them. ~~are in the Bronchial vessels – they are~~ 12 great size and weight. Instead of ℔i ℔5 from Infl^n. & Congestions. 13 Diminution of their size ~~fat to~~ 1/2, or 1/4 of what is natural. 14 Hard like smoked meat, so as to be cut with difficulty. 15 but one lobe on one side – the other two dissol=ved by pus. 16 Great dilatation of the heart. 17 fat interspersed here & there in the muscles. & 18 Diseased liver & stomach + all – all ~~from~~ the effects only of a pulmonary fever originating in general debility. –

+ Pus in the cavity of the Thorax not only from rupture of Abscess in the lungs, but from inflam^n of the pleura. the pus is secreted from it.